

## **STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 49**

### *GSA Spends \$51 Million to “Green” a Federal Building*

- The General Services Administration (GSA) is spending \$51 million in taxpayer Stimulus funds to “green” the 14-story Poff Federal Building in Roanoke, Virginia. The renovations to the building would include replacing the windows and installing a new heating and cooling system.
- Incredibly, this \$51 million renovation will cost 4 times as much as it cost to construct the entire building in 1975, just thirty-five years ago.
- Worse, the \$51 million in renovations aren’t even enough to entice the building’s largest tenant. The Department of Veteran Affairs, which occupies over 50% of the Poff Building, is currently looking for new offices.
- Congressman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA), who represents Roanoke, called the project a “waste of taxpayer dollars.” Clearly exasperated, Rep. Goodlatte went on to ask, “how can the General Services Administration spend nearly \$51 million of the taxpayers' money to renovate the Poff Federal Building and yet not address the needs of the building's tenants?”
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, \$51 million in taxpayer funds would not be spent on “greening” a federal building that’s losing half of its tenants. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Source:** <http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/251121>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip’s website:  
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html>

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus.